

## SECTION I. (AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS)

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[3]]6 in which the protease inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of white birch extract, betulinol, betulinic acid, *Boswellia* extract, boswellic acid, and combinations thereof.
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Currently amended) A composition for topical application to the skin comprising from 0.001 to 10% of at least one protease inhibitor selected from the group consisting of white birch extract, silver birch extract, *Boswellia* extract, bearberry extract, *Centella asiatica* extract, *Pygeum* (*Prunus*) *africanum* extract, betulinol, betulinic acid, boswellic acid, ursolic acid, ~~oleanic~~ oleanolic acid, oleanol, asiaticoside, asiatic acid, madagassic acid, green tea extract, apple extracts, EGCG, ECG, catechins, phenylpropanoids, phloretin, soy protein, egg protease inhibitors, cholesterol sulfate, phytosterol sulfate, and combinations thereof, and from 0.001 to 10% of at least one cell differentiation enhancer in which the enhancer is sclareolide.
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 6 comprising about 0.1 to about 1% of a protease inhibitor and about .05 to 1% cell differentiation.
9. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 8 in which the protease inhibitor is white birch extract, betulinol, or boswellic acid ~~and the enhancer is sclareolide.~~

10. (Previously Presented) A composition for topical application to the skin comprising from 0.001 to 10% of at least one protease inhibitor in which the protease inhibitor is cholesterol sulfate and from 0.001 to 10% of at least one cell differentiation enhancer selected from the group consisting of forskolin, sclareolide, 7-dehydrocholesterol, and Vitamin D3 analogs.
11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 which also contains at least one fatty acid, at least one ceramide, and at least one sterol.
12. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 11 in which the fatty acid is a C12-C20 fatty acid.
13. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 11 containing about 0.05 to 10% of each of cholesterol sulfate or ~~phyto~~sterol sulfate, fatty acid, ~~ceramide~~ ceramide, and sterol.
14. (Cancelled).
15. (Currently amended) A composition for topical application to the skin comprising from 0.001 to 10% of at least one protease inhibitor selected from the group consisting of white birch extract, silver birch extract, *Boswellia* extract, bearberry extract, *Centella asiatica* extract, *Pygeum* (*Prunus africanum*) extract, betulinol, betulinic acid, boswellic acid, ursolic acid, ~~olealonic~~ oleanolic acid, oleanol, asiaticoside, asiatic acid, madagassic acid, green tea extract, apple extracts, EGCG, ECG, catechins, phenylpropanoids, phloretin, soy protein, egg protease inhibitors, cholesterol sulfate, phytosterol sulfate, and combinations thereof and from 0.001 to 10% of at least one cell differentiation enhancer selected from the group consisting of forskolin, sclareolide, 7-dehydrocholesterol, and Vitamin D3 analogs, and a self tanning agent in which the self tanning agent is dihydroxyacetone.

16. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 6 which further comprises at least one sunscreen.
17. (Previously Presented) A method for treatment or prevention of dry skin which comprises applying to the skin a composition according to claim 6.
18. (Previously Presented) A method for treatment or prevention of dry skin which comprises applying to the skin a composition according to claim 9.
19. (Previously Presented) A method for treatment or prevention of dry skin which comprises applying to the skin a composition according to claim 11.
20. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing or preventing skin's response to irritants or sensitizers comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 6.
21. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing or preventing skin's response to irritants or sensitizers comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 9.
22. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing or preventing skin's response to irritants or sensitizers comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 11.
23. (Previously Presented) A method for protecting skin against effects of exposure to UV radiation comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 6.
24. (Previously Presented) A method for protecting skin against effects of exposure to UV radiation comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 9.
25. (Previously Presented) A method for protecting skin against effects of exposure to UV radiation comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 11.

26. (Previously Presented) A method for protecting skin against effects of exposure to UV radiation comprising applying to the skin a composition of claim 16.
27. (Cancelled).
28. (Previously Presented) A method for tanning the skin without exposure to the sun comprising applying to the skin a composition according to claim 15.
29. (Cancelled).
30. (Cancelled).
31. (Cancelled).
32. (Cancelled).
33. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[32]]10 in which the cell differentiation enhancer is sclareolide.
34. (Cancelled).
35. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 comprising about 0.1 to 1% of a protease inhibitor and about .05 to 1% cell differentiation enhancer.
36. (Cancelled).